

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

When the bit rate of an input transport stream is reduced to a lower bit rate S by reencoding, the bit rate R_o of streams other than video is set to be the same as the bit rate of the streams other than video in the input transport stream. Then, the value obtained by subtracting R_o from S ($S - R_o$) is set as the bit rate for the video stream to be reencoded.

311879_1.DOC